

Serial No.: 09/675,066

Attorney's Docket No.: 10559/293001/P9300

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-16, 17-26, 28, 29, and 31-39 were pending in the application prior to amendment. Claims 1, 2, 5-16, 18-26, 28, 29, 31-34, and 36-39 stand rejected as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,991,785 to Aladina et al. ("Aladina"). Claim 3 stands rejected as allegedly being unpatentable over Aladina and Simultaneous Address Relocation and Correction, IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, November 1964, Volume 7, Issue 6 ("IBM").

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 16 and 17. Claims 3, 5-15, 18-26, 28, 29, and 31-39 are pending after amendment. In view of the amendments and remarks herein, it is believed that claims 3, 5-15, 18-26, 28, 29, and 31-39 have been placed in condition for allowance.

Claims 13-15 and 18

Claim 13 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 17 and intervening claim 16. Claim 13 and its dependents, claims 14, 15, and 18 are thus in condition for allowance.

Claims 3, 5-12, 19-26, 28, 29, and 31-39

Claim 11 has been amended to include features similar to those in claims 36-39 prior to amendment, but explicitly reciting that "the at least one extreme value comprises an

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extreme value occurring more than once in the array," and further reciting that "the position of the at least one extreme value in the array comprises a position of a predetermined one of a first occurrence and a last occurrence of the extreme value occurring more than once in the array."

The office action noted that, if there is a single occurrence of an extreme value in an array, the occurrence may be said to be the first and the last occurrence of the extreme value. Thus, the office action alleges that Aladina anticipates claims 36-39 (prior to amendment).

However, as amended, claim 11 requires both that the extreme value occurs more than once in the array, and that a position of a predetermined one of a first and last occurrence of the extreme value is identified. Aladina does not discuss multiple occurrences of an extreme value in an array, and certainly does not contemplate identifying a predetermined one of a first and a last occurrence of the extreme value.

Claim 11 has thus been placed in condition for allowance. Claims 3, 5, 6-10, and 36-39 depend from claim 11, and are thus in condition for allowance as well.

Independent claims 19, 26, and 29 have been amended to include features similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 11, and are in condition for allowance as well, as are their dependent claims 20-25, 28, and 31-35.

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CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue, or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Claims 3, 5-15, 18-26, 28, 29, and 31-39 are in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (858) 678-4311.

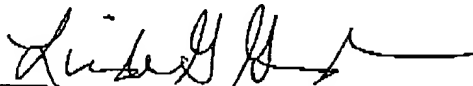
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No fees are believed due. Please apply any other charges  
or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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